

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of ~~enabling a client, running on a first computing device that is connected to a second computing device, to use a service on that second computing device, comprising the steps of:~~

(a) ~~—a service, installed on the second computing device, registering its a published name of a service installed on a second computing device with a service broker on that the~~ second computing device;

(b) ~~—the client sending receiving, by the service broker, a message from a client running on a first computing device to the service broker, the message specifying the published name of the service; and~~

(c) ~~—the service broker providing causing a connection point address of the service to be provided to the client by the service broker;~~

wherein the published name of the service conforms to a structured naming convention that both uniquely identifies the service itself and uniquely identifies the service as a service from a particular vendor, but without specifying the connection point address of ~~that the~~ service, to enable the service broker to start up the service without the risk of a clash.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1 in which the structured naming convention uses reversed domain information.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the method comprises using, by in which the service broker, uses a single well-known port number address so that the client needs only this the well known port number to send a message to the service broker.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the method comprises: obtaining, by in which the service, obtains a connection point; and causing informs the service broker to be informed of the connection point address; and the service broker then informs

causing the client to be informed of the connection point address.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 4, wherein the method comprises causing, in which by the service broker, informs the client to be informed of the connection point address to enable and the client to use then uses that the address in communicating directly with the serviceserver.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 4 in which the connection point address is a port number.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 4 wherein in an instance in which, if a the service is required more than once, the server providing the service will is not be re-started, but instead and the service broker uses cached address information.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein registering the published name of the service includes registering in which, when services register with the service broker, they register a version number to indicate the a version of the service that they are providing to be provided.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 8, wherein the method comprises in which the client can receiving a request, from the client, for a specific version of the a named service, and wherein the service broker starts starting, by the service broker, the a highest version available of the named service in an instance in which the case where a version number is omitted from the request by the client.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the method comprises in which the service broker enables enabling, by the service broker, multiple services installed on the first a single, second computing device to serve one or more external clients that are personal computers (PCs) or other computers connected by a local link or a remote link, the local link being a such as cable link, an Infra-Red or short distance radio link, a (such as Bluetooth link), and the or by a remote link being such as a network data connection.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the method further comprises causing in which the service broker provides authentication information to be provided such that only authenticated external clients can access services.

12. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:
a computing device; that is connected to a first computing device, the computing device comprising:

(a) a server service installed on the computing device; and

(b) a service broker on the computing device;

wherein the to which a service installed on the computing device is configured to register registers its a published name of the service with the service broker; and;

wherein the service broker is configured to receive which receives a message sent from the a first computing device that is connected to the computing device, the message specifying the that published name of the service, said service broker causing providing a connection point address of the service to be provided to a the client of the first computing device;

wherein the published name of the service conforms to a structured naming convention that both uniquely identifies the service itself and uniquely identifies the service as a service from a particular vendor, but without specifying the connection point address of ~~that the~~ service, to enable the service broker to start up the service without the risk of a clash.

13. (Currently Amended) The device apparatus of Claim 12, wherein in which the service broker is programmed configured to use such that the structured naming convention includes being configured to use the structured naming convention, the structured naming convention using uses reversed domain information.

14. (Currently Amended) The device apparatus of Claim 12 in which the service broker is configured to use uses a single well-known port number address.

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~device~~ apparatus of Claim 12 in which the service is configured to obtain ~~obtains~~ a connection point and inform ~~informs~~ the service broker of the connection point address, and the service broker is configured to inform ~~then informs~~ the client of the connection point address.

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~device~~ apparatus of Claim 15 in which the service broker is configured to inform ~~informs~~ the client of the connection point address to enable ~~and~~ the client to use the ~~then uses~~ that address in communicating directly with the ~~server~~ service.

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~device~~ apparatus of Claim 15 in which the connection point address is a port number.

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~device~~ apparatus of Claim 15 ~~wherein in which, if a service is required more than once, the server providing the service~~ is configured to ~~will not be re-started in an instance in which the service is required more than once, and but instead the service broker is configured to use~~ uses cached address information in the instance in which the service is required more than once.

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~device~~ apparatus of Claim 12 ~~wherein the service is further configured to in which, when services register with the service broker, they register a version number to indicate the a version of the service that they are to be provided~~ providing.

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~device~~ apparatus of Claim 19 ~~wherein the service broker is further configured to receive a in which the client can request, form the client, for a specific version of the a named-service, and start a wherein the service broker starts the highest version available of the named-service in an instance in which the case where a version number is omitted~~ form the request by the client.

21. (Currently Amended) The ~~device~~ apparatus of Claim 12 in which the service broker is configured to serve ~~can serve~~ external clients that are personal computers (PCs) or other

computers connected by a local link or a remote link, the local link being a such-as-cable link, an Infra-Red or short distance radio link, a (such-as-Bluetooth link), and the -or-by-a-remote link being such-as-a network data connection.

22. (Currently Amended) The device apparatus of Claim 12 in which the service broker is configured to cause provides-authentication information to be provided such that only authenticated external clients can access services.

23. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising at least one processor and at least one memory including computer program code, the at least one memory and the computer program code configured to, with the at least one processor, direct the apparatus at least to:

register a published name of a service with a service broker, the service and the service broker being included on a computing device;

receive a message sent from a first computing device that is connected to the computing device, the message specifying the published name of the service, said service broker causing a connection point address of the service to be provided to a client of the first computing device;

wherein the published name of the service conforms to a structured naming convention that both uniquely identifies the service itself and uniquely identifies the service as a service from a particular vendor, but without specifying the connection point address of the service, to enable the service broker to start up the service without the risk of a clash.

A method of enabling a client, running on a first computing device that is connected to a second computing device, to use any one of a plurality of services on that second computing device, said services being provided by corresponding socket servers using the TCP/IP protocol suite, said method comprising the steps of:

—— (a) —— a service, installed on a second computing device, registering its published name with a service broker on that second computing device;

—— (b) —— the client sending a message to the service broker specifying the published name of the service; and

—— (c) —— the service broker providing a connection point address of the service to the client;

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—— wherein the published name of each of the services conforms to a structured naming convention that both uniquely identifies the service and identifies the service as a service from a particular vendor, but without specifying the connection point address of that service, to enable the service broker to start up the service without the risk of a clash.